

The humble Petition of the poor
distressed Prisoners in the head Prison
of all about *London* and *Middlesex*,
the common Gaol of *Newgate*,

Being two hundred fourscore and odde persons,
both Men and Women, whereof many are
distressed Debtors;

Against this time of the Birth of our Blessed
Lord and Saviour *Jesus Christ*.



*Blessed is he that considereth the poor and needy:
the Lord shall deliver him in the needfull
time of trouble, and his seed shall be blessed
upon earth. Psal. 41.*

Most humbly sheweth to your Christian and mercifull Charity
the lamentable estate of the poor Prisoners, in the common
Gaol *Newgate*, being two hundred fourscore and odd per-
sons, afflicted with hunger, nakedness, and other discomforts,
so that it is impossible for any to conceive their miseries, but onely those
that feel them; who being accounted people of the worst condition, are
little pitied: yet many are committed for Debt and other small offences,
who notwithstanding suffer one misery in want with the greatest offend-
ers; and those that deserve death, after long sorrow, suffer Execution
with publick shame: yet while they live in this miserable world, most
humbly (even upon their bare knees) beseech your charitable benevolence
against this time of the Birth of our Blessed Lord and Saviour *Jesus*
Christ. Many beg now that shall never beg more, all ask in the Name
of *Jesus*. Your reward shall be, *Come ye blessed, ye visited me sick and*
in prison: For as they were not the worst in *Israel* on whom the wall
of *Silo* fell, so are they not the worst in *England* on whom affliction is
faln. Doe as God shall move your hearts, and look for his reward; and
so blessed be his Name for all our good Benefactors.

May it please you to put your Charity into this Bearer's Box, sealed
with the House-*Seal*, as it is figured upon this Petition.

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